JOINT PAROCHIAL CEMETERIES.

Sir,—The Roman maxim, "*In Urbe ne sepelito*," and the melancholy abuses too long existent, are at last fully recognized. Whether, in the amazing changes now occurring in society, any parochial distinction would be desirable in new cemeteries, may be a doubtful point. There may be, however, many who would like to be buried not only "with the bones of their father and their mother," and their kindred, but also with their neighbours; and when they go out of the city would like, as it were, to take their parish churchyard with them. And such feelings are, at any rate, historical and respectable. Such, therefore, may be pleased to examine the following plan.

Although I have not the slightest *authority* to mention such a great name as the Bishop of London's, yet, being fully satisfied of his honourable candour, I will boldly mention, *meo periculo*, that when it was submitted to him (by letter), with a rude sketch, about five years ago, his lordship was pleased to say, that "it was by far the best he had yet seen."

Let any number of parishes, according to their united population—say 10 with 150,000, which with some little divergence is nearly the case between Farringdon-street and Charing-cross,—make a "junction" for the purpose of obtaining a *country burying-ground*. The relative size must depend on others, and partly on circumstances. Certainly it *ought* not to be *less* than an acre for every 5,000*—then we should be inferior to Paris. The whole enclosed with a good wall, eight feet high. The partitions between each allotment might be dwarf iron fences, mounted on brickwork; at the entrances of these might be small pillars—"Στηλαι." Whilst the outward form would be best of an oblong description, the lines might diverge from a centre, enclosing unequal spaces, according to the several populations. Thus, if St. Paul's, Covent-garden (6,000), and St. Andrew's, Holborn (40,000), were in the same "junction," of course they would require a very different tract of land. In the centre a considerable open space—say 150 feet diameter—the whole of which, covered with gravel, might be vaulted over: in the middle of which the chapel. A carriage-way, with foot-paths and flower-borders, from the gate to the centre.† The chapel cruci-form—say four arms, each 25 feet by 20, and 27 feet or upwards high with a tower in the centre, containing a bell. The architecture, of course, might be either "Gothic" or "Roman." In this instance I should decidedly recommend the latter. It would be more cheerful, and better suited to this mode of burial, which has both classicality and early Christianity on its side. A good effect would be produced by having the piers of the tower flat, with bold, enriched, and modillioned arches, resting on solid corbels.

The finest example of similar ribs in England is in the ceiling of the chancel of *Woburn Church*, Bedfordshire, designed by Sir William Chambers.

In the entrance arm of the cross (or nave) a reading desk. In the opposite one, a gallery containing a small organ. Four or six choristers to be maintained; which item to be included in the general fee. Under the tower, in the centre, a large square slab of grey dove marble, raised on Purbeck stone, about three feet high, which might receive four or five coffins at once, if necessary. The other two arms to be handsomely fenced off for monuments, though they might be opened for standing-room on any particular occasion. A chandelier and branches of brass or cut glass, for wax candles, when required. The chapel to be paved with Rockhill, or other stone, if marble be too expensive.

Of course, the fair interests of the clergy would be as safe under this as any other plan, with compensation. It would be far better for the chapel service to be always performed over the bodies of paupers, then equal in the hands of their God; which would remedy a cruel distinction. *Two* chapels would break the unity of design here. However, if this, being consecrated, could not be used, at certain times, for any other services besides those of the Church (which is, I believe, sometimes done in Germany) another might be erected near the entrance.—I am, Sir, &c.

J. D. Parry,
Author of the "Coast of Sussex."

London, May, 1846.

* For the *expense*, a shilling or eighteenpenny rate, and that by instalments in six years, might be sufficient.

† Should any of these details appear superfluous or intrusive, they will not in candid and worthy minds affect the main idea.

VELOCITY OF RUNNING WATER.

Sir,—I enclose a method of solving *approximately* the question proposed by your "Constant Reader."—I am, Sir, &c.,

W.

It has been found by experiment, that the velocity of water flowing uniformly in a straight inclined pipe, is nearly as $\sqrt{\frac{DH}{L}}$, in which expression D is the diameter, H the height of the full, and L the length—all in feet. The quantity that it would discharge, therefore, in a given time, is as $D^2\sqrt{\frac{DH}{L}}$.

Assuming that the reservoir is just deep enough to keep the first length of pipe (D) always full, that is, just covering the orifice, the second pipe (d) should be capable of discharging the same quantity as the first; whence, $d^2\sqrt{\frac{dh}{l}} = D^2\sqrt{\frac{DH}{L}}$, and

$$d = \left(\frac{D^5 H l}{hL}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

This formula applied to the question, gives $d = \left(\frac{1{\cdot}75^5 \times 45 \times 1000}{175 \times 3700}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = 1{\cdot}0114$ ft. $= 1\frac{1}{4}$ in.

Now, no notice has been taken of the bendings of the pipes; but it is evident, that in the present case the retardation from this cause would be greatest in the two-inch pipe, and, therefore, the diameter (viz., 1¼ inch) determined above for the other is somewhat in excess.

W.

*** The above is not exactly a solution of the question proposed in The Builder; it is merely a method of determining approximately the diameter of a pipe of a given length and declivity, which shall discharge as much water as another pipe, of which the diameter, length, and declivity are known, on the supposition that the pipe is straight. It may, however, be useful as a formula for resolving, approximately, cases to which it is applicable, such as that which the writer has assumed.

METROPOLITAN BUILDINGS BILL.

Mr. Hawes inquired, in the House of Commons, on the 22nd inst., when the amended bill would be introduced? Sir J. Graham replied, that the act of last session was voluminous and intricate, and it had been found that there was very great difficulty in carrying it into execution. It had been referred to Mr. Hardwick,* and a conveyancer, to consider the doubts and difficulties that had arisen, and it was now proposed to break up the act into four different bills,—one regulating buildings properly so called; the second regulating the office of official referee, and the machinery for carrying the act into execution; the third relating to property adjoining buildings; and the fourth referring to nuisances carried on in the metropolis in buildings. The first two bills would be ready to be introduced next month; the last two were on subjects full of difficulty, and he could not pledge himself that they would be ready so soon. There was, under the existing law, power to revise the fees payable to surveyors, and the government intended to reduce those fees.†

A few days ago a return of 18 folio pages was printed (procured by Mr. Forster, the member for Berwick-on-Tweed), showing the number of informations laid by the surveyors of districts under the Metropolitan Buildings Act. The *Times* gives the following abstract of it: "The informations laid under the Building Act of the 14th George III., c. 78, numbered 50 in 1844-5, and 11 in the present year. The informations laid under the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 84, in 1845 and 1846, were 61 in old districts, and 47 in new districts. The fees awarded by the special referees amounted to 61*l.* 8s. 6d. in old districts, and 29*l.* 18s. 6d. in new districts; and to the office of the Metropolitan Buildings in those districts 301*l.* 2s. 10d., of which 180*l.* 11s. 8d. was in old districts, and 120*l.* 11s. 2d. in new districts. In the year ending the 1st of January last, there were 61 informations laid at the office of Metropolitan Buildings by the surveyors of districts under the 7th and 8th Victoria, being districts under the 14th George III., c. 78, and 47 by the surveyors of new districts in that period under the same Act. The fees awarded by the official referees in the last-mentioned class were 29*l.* 18s. 6d. to district surveyors and 120*l.* 11s. 2d. to the office of Metropolitan Buildings."

* Sir James was in error; the bill has been referred to Mr. Gwilt.

† On inquiry, we find that the fees about to be reduced are those payable at the Metropolitan Buildings Office, not the surveyors' fees.

THE PROPER RESTORATION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

ELY CATHEDRAL.—THE COLLEGE AT MAIDSTONE.

In reference to a notice, in last week's *Athenæum*, of the works now going on in the west end of the Cathedral of Ely, a correspondent of that journal expresses great fears for the stability of the western tower; and addresses certain statements to it, in the hope that some one connected with the cathedral may be induced to give some satisfactory information on the subject. "The facts," he says, "are these:—the great western tower of Ely is a building of the latter half of the 12th century, resting upon four very lofty pointed arches; the masonry being not of a kind suited for such large and lofty structures, these arches have been a good deal crippled by the superincumbent weight; and when the present 'perpendicular' lantern was placed upon the tower, the architect thought it prudent to strengthen them by very massive piers and arches built within them. The chief part of the present operations consists in cutting away the upper courses of these 'perpendicular' arches, so as to deprive the upper arches of the support which the later ones were intended to afford. The question, therefore, which I should be very glad to see satisfactorily answered, is,—Is this operation unattended by danger? It must be clear to every one who observes how much the southern wing of the west front, and even the great tower itself, have swerved from the perpendicular,—who notices the cracks in the arches above alluded to,—or who remarks that the northern wing of the front has fallen—that the whole of this work requires additional support, and by no means that it should be deprived of any which it now has. I was informed that the works now carrying on are not under the superintendence of any professional architect. Can this be prudent in a case like this, which surely requires knowledge that a practical architect is alone likely to possess."

One of the archæological societies ought at once to institute inquiries into the subject. Our cathedrals belong to the world, and should be carefully tended.

The same journal, referring to the conversion of the venerable college on the Medway, at Maidstone, to an agricultural institution, has the following remarks as to the repairs and alterations in progress:—"It pleases us to think that so fine a feature of this clean and lively town, is to be saved from absolute ruin. But we would rather have the ruins than some barbarous modern antique. The changes which are projected require a skilful architect so to conduct them that they shall not spoil the character and sentiment of the building. We almost doubt if due knowledge and judgment be supervising the business. When we explored the works, we found the hall, which is of noble height and dimensions, about being divided by a brick wall. Perhaps the wants of the institution may require this to be done; but we cannot imagine any reason which should warrant the architect in putting up a modern *flat plaster ceiling*, and thus hiding the tie beams and wood work of the high-pitched roof. We trust no such barbarism is contemplated. If any one wish to see what a frightful effect a modern plastered ceiling has in an old Gothic building, he has only to cross the bridge adjoining this college, and go to the Old Pilgrim's Chapel, changed some years since from a barn into a church. The restorations in this church may have been tolerable before the spirit of mediæval architecture was as well felt

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